

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1360

By Borchert

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Thurston L. Smith of Dover.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Thurston L. Smith; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born October 15, 1935, in Indian Mound, Mr. Smith was the son of Alvin “Pete” and Beulah Norfleet Smith; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith served with acumen and alacrity as a union negotiator with the United Rubber/Steel Workers of America, from which he retired; he also retired from Acme Boot Co., where he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, an active member of his community, Mr. Smith served as Stewart County Commissioner for District 2 and as a member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Stewart County Historical Society, the Kiwanis Club, the North Stewart Water District board, the Child Advocacy Committee, the Stewart County Fire Department board, and the Stewart County Democratic Party, for which he served as Chairman; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career and public service, Mr. Smith established a reputation as a true volunteer who never failed to help with any endeavor when asked; known for his wit, humor, and friendship, he made an enduring impact upon Stewart County during his remarkable life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith was an active and devout member of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Thurston Smith was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of fifty-four years, Marie Atkins Smith, and was the proud father of his children and their spouses, Mike and Beverly Fussell and Wayne and Debbie Austin; he was the doting grandfather of Lee Austin, whom he often accompanied to music performances; and

WHEREAS, he is further survived by his brother, James Smith, and his sister, Mary Smith, as well as several nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by four brothers, Aaron Smith, Raymond Smith, William "Bill" Smith, and George "Peewee" Elliott; and

WHEREAS, Thurston Smith leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Thurston L. Smith, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Smith.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.